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PATENT APPLICATION
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant :	Marco CAERAN)	
Appln. No. :	09/537,176)	Group Art Unit 3728
Filed :	March 29, 2000)	Examiner Jila Mohandes
For :	SPORTS BOOT WITH FLEXIBLE FRAME)	Confirmation No. 6098

**REPLY UNDER 37 CFR §1.116
TO THE OFFICE ACTION OF DECEMBER 16, 2002**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir:

In reply to the final Office action dated December 16, 2002, for which Applicant requests an extension of time under 37 CFR §1.136(a) for one month, from March 16, 2003 to April 16, 2003, please enter the following amendments.

This amendment follows an interview between Applicant's undersigned representative and Examiner Mohandes on April 3, 2003.

Further, the amendment is believed to reduce issues significantly by resulting in a single independent claim, viz., claim 24. Accordingly, entry of the amendment is kindly requested.

The amendments are being submitted using the revised format set forth in the Notice, dated January 31, 2003, issued by the Office of Patent Legal Administration (signed by Deputy Commissioner Stephen Kunin), entitled "Amendments in a Revised Format Now Permitted." The Notice explains that the provisions of 37 CFR §1.121(a), (b), (c), and (d) are waived.

Upon entry of the amendment, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.